(b) Swa-Shakti Project (RWDEP) is being implemented in the State of Jharkhand by the State Government through the newly-formed Jharkhand Women's Development Society in 5 Districts, viz. Ranchi, Hazaribagh, Dumka, Gumla and Chaibasa. Till September 2001, 570 Women's Self Help Groups have been formed under Swa-Shakti Project in Jharkhand.

UNICEF Projects in Rajasthan

2043. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY : Will the MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether United Nation Children's Emergency fund (UNICEF) would implement several projects for children in Rajasthan from 2003 to 2007;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether such projects would be implemented in other States also;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI) SUMITRA MAHAJAN) : (a) and (b) The programmes with the assistance of UNICEF are implemented in India through Master Plan of Operations as per the agreement signed between Government of India and UNICEF from time to time. The present Master Plan of Operations was signed on 3rd May, 1999 for the period from 1999 to 2002. The Master Plan of Operations covering the period 2003 to 2007 is under discussion with UNICEF. After finalization, a State Plan of Action for Rajasthan will be drawn up.

Initial consultations were held between UNICEF and the Government of Rajasthan in August, 2001 on the programmes to be undertaken in 2003-2007. The thrust areas identified include reduction of IMR, Care for 0 to3 age group of children, girls' education, improving institutional coverage of water and sanitation programme and drought mitigation.

(c) to (e) These programmes are being implemented through several Union Ministries and Departments and State Governments/UT Administrations in the field of health, education, nutrition, child environment, child protection, child development, water and sanitation communications, planing, monitoring and evaluation and cover the entire country. The Master Plan of Operations for the period from 2003 to 2007 is under initial stages of discussion.